

STATEWIDE PLANNING e-NEWS

Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program • One Capitol Hill • Providence, RI 02908 • 401.222.7901 • fax 401.222.2083 • www.planning.ri.gov

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We're Here to Help

One of the central missions of the [Statewide Planning Program](http://www.planning.ri.gov) is to enable cities and towns to create great communities.

The staff of the Statewide Planning Program is here to help, with everything from document review to data gathering, fact checking to facilitation. Our staff has expertise in a variety of topics, including GIS and mapping, public participation, data analysis, redevelopment planning and urban design.

If you think your community could benefit from the assistance of the Statewide Planning Program, contact Jared Rhodes at 222-5772 or Jared.Rhodes@doa.ri.gov.



RhodeMap RI, led by the Division of Planning, held its third round of Great Places Workshops at six locations across the state in November. Participants weighed in on two key questions: How and where should Rhode Island's communities grow, and how should growth and preservation differ in urban, suburban, and rural areas?

We discussed these questions through the "Growth Centers Game," in which participants used maps, stickers, and markers to identify and categorize current and potential growth sites and determine what made those places important to their surrounding neighborhoods, communities, and regions.

The Great Places Workshops are one part of RhodeMap RI's efforts to look at the big picture of Rhode Island's future to make it a better place to live and work. The project will use new state plans to build a better Rhode Island by strengthening our economy, creating vibrant neighborhoods, and planning for future growth.

In January, RhodeMap RI will hold the fourth and final round of six Great Places Workshops, again at locations across the state. More information, including interactive great places maps, is available at rhodemapi.org. Our website also contains an online 'ideas portal' that invites everyone to provide input and suggestions on how to build a better Rhode Island.

Great Places Workshops

January 8, 2014

Blackstone Valley
The Meadows
2 Village Way, North Smithfield, RI

January 16, 2014

Greater Providence
Buttonwoods Community Center
3027 West Shore Road, Warwick, RI

January 9, 2014

Southern Rhode Island
Richmond Carolina Fire District
208 Richmond Town House Road,
Carolina, RI

January 21, 2014

East Bay
Barrington Town Council Chamber
283 County Road, Barrington, RI

January 14, 2014

Newport County
Ramada Inn
425 East Main Road, Middletown, RI

January 23, 2014

Northern Rhode Island
Smith Library
100 Tinkham Lane, Harrisville, RI

Division of Planning Committee Meetings



State Planning Council

January 9th, 9:00 a.m.

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

Conference Room A

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/council/planningcouncil/>

Technical Committee

January 3rd, 9:00 a.m.

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

Conference Room A

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/council/technical/>

Transportation Advisory Committee

January 23rd, 6:30 p.m. a.m.

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

Conference Room A

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/council/transportation>

State of Rhode Island

Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

Save the Date!

On Saturday, April 26, 2014, the RIHPHC presents the 28th Annual Rhode Island Statewide Historic Preservation Conference, "Pride in Preservation," in Warren.

Statewide leaders and mom-and-pop shopkeepers are urging Rhode Islanders to take pride in the local and homegrown. Preservationists are answering the call--after all, isn't historic preservation all about taking pride in local places and working to reuse, restore, and interpret them? Kick up your heels as you march down Warren's Main Street, discover its arts district, and walk along Water Street and the working waterfront. Bike to Bristol, bus across Barrington, go horseback riding in East Providence (on the Crescent Park Carousel). Join us at the 2014 conference, and take pride in preservation.



U.S. Census Bureau Releases the 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

In December, the U.S. Census released 2008-2012 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year estimates. The ACS releases 5-year estimates annually providing refreshed statistics for many distinct geographies including the nation, all 50 states, counties, cities and towns, census tracts, and block groups. These estimates give even the smallest communities timely information on more than 40 topics, such as educational attainment, income, occupation, commuting to work, language spoken at home, nativity, ancestry and selected monthly homeowner costs. Five-year ACS datasets are the only ACS datasets that provide information for geographies with fewer than 20,000 people, and for larger geographies, the 5-year dataset provides estimates with smaller margins of error than the 3- or 1-year estimates.

This is the first ACS 5-year release that includes statistics at the neighborhood level for the following topic areas:

- Disability
- Marital History
- VA Service-Connected Disability Status and Rating
- Health Insurance Coverage
- Year of Naturalization

To access these statistics for all published ACS geographies except those at the block group level, please visit the Census Bureau's [American FactFinder](#).

Map Census and ACS Data Online with Census Explorer

Explore the economic, social, and demographic characteristics of a town, neighborhood, or Census tract through the power of ACS statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau's new mapping tool, [Census Explorer](#). Choose from eight different topics, including median household income, labor force participation and percent of the population 65 and older and explore these statistics for states, counties and census tracts. Census Explorer includes not only the latest American Community Survey five-year statistics (2008-2012) but also information from the 1990 and 2000 censuses, so you can see how your community has changed over the past two decades.



GrowSmartRI
Sustainable Economic Growth
& Quality of Place

Municipal Training Offered Writing Sound Decisions

Writing Sound Decisions is designed to help municipal planners, legal staff and boards and commissions write decisions whose content will hold up in court and whose clarity will make them readily understandable for both enforcement officers and property owners. It is specifically intended to address the problem, noted repeatedly in recent Superior Court and Supreme Court decisions, that written decisions coming out of municipal planning boards and zoning boards do not explain how the evidence contained in the record led the board to reach its conclusions. Taught by Rhode Island land-use attorney Nancy Letendre, the program is grounded in Rhode Island law and cites recent Rhode Island Superior and Supreme Court decisions. The workshop handbook provides both a summary of material covered in the workshop and appendices that include templates for simple decisions, examples of appropriate content for more complex decisions and a glossary of terms. The workshop culminates in a hands-on writing exercise.

The workshop will be held on **Tuesday, February 4, 2014** from **5:30pm until 8:30pm** (including a light supper) in Foster.

REGISTRATION FEE ASSISTANCE! The Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust is partnering with the Land-Use Training Collaborative to provide registration fee assistance for Trust members for this workshop. The registration fee for the workshop is scaled according to Member participation levels in The Trust. Trust Members who participate in both the Property/ Liability Pool and the Workers' Compensation Pool may register people free of charge. Trust Members who participate in only one Trust Pool may register people for 50% of the standard fee (ie, \$15.00). Non-Trust members pay the standard registration fee (\$30.00.)

For full information go to www.growsmartri.org or contact Jodi Castallo, Training Coordinator, jcastallo@growsmartri.org or 401-273-5711 ext. 6.

The workshop is supported by the RI Division of Planning-Statewide Program with funding provided by the US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.

URI/School of Education

Professional Development Workshops Cost \$99 each

http://www.uri.edu/prov/certificate_noncredit/noncredit/profdevelopment.html

EXCEL Made Simple Wed: 01.08.14

GRANT WRITING Tuesday: 01.14.14

Advanced EXCEL Formulas, Data Analysis, & Charting 01.22.14

COMMUNICATION SKILLS 01.28.14

MultiMedia Certificates for 2014 Costs~ \$450 for 6 week session \$900 for 12 week session

http://www.uri.edu/prov/certificate_noncredit/certificate/Multimedia/MultimediaTech.html

Web Design I 01.06.14

InDesign 01.07.14

Web Design II 01.08.14

Photoshop I 01.09.14

Course Descriptions: <http://www.rimmcp.com/>

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